

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masayuki NATE et al.

Application No. New U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/01160

Filed: September 8, 2004

Docket No.: 121043

For: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING HONEYCOMB STRUCTURE

**TRANSLATION OF THE AMENDMENTS
UNDER PCT ARTICLE 19 (35 USC 371(c)(3))**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached hereto is a translation of the amendments of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). The attached translated material replaces the claims of the International Application.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Thomas J. Pardini
Registration No. 30,411

JAO:TJP/mlo

Date: September 8, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>

Claims

1. A method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure, the method comprising steps of:

forming, by extrusion, a formed body having an outer wall,
5 partition walls provided inside the outer wall, and cells each surrounded by the partition walls as well as extending to an axial direction of the body; and

drying the formed body,

characterized in that the forming step comprises a step
10 of receiving the formed body being extruded on a cradle which receives the formed body so that an angle of at least one face of the outer wall on the cradle relative to the horizontal plane is 15 to 35 degrees;

the drying step comprises a step of drying the formed body
15 in a state of being received on the cradle.

2. The method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 1, wherein the cradle has two faces having a V-shaped cross section.

3. A method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure, the
20 method comprising steps of:

forming, by extrusion, a formed body having an outer wall, partition walls provided inside the outer wall, and cells each surrounded by the partition walls as well as extending to an axial direction of the body; and

25 drying the formed body,

characterized in that the forming step comprises a step of receiving the formed body being extruded on a cradle which

*Replaced
by Art 19*

has receiving faces having a V-shaped cross section with a cut at an apex of the V shape, and which receives the formed body so that an angle of at least one face of the outer wall on the cradle relative to the horizontal plane is 15 to 45 degrees;

5 and

the drying step comprises a step of drying the formed body in a state of being received on the cradle.

4. The method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 3, wherein a length of the cut from the apex of one side of the V shape toward an end portion is 5 to 30 % of a length of a vertical section relative to an axial direction of the outer wall face on a face forming the one side.

5. The method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the cradle receives the formed body so that the angle of at least one face of the outer wall on the cradle relative to the horizontal plane is 35 to 45 degrees.

6. A method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure, the method comprising steps of:

20 forming, by extrusion, a formed body having an outer wall, partition walls provided inside the outer wall, and cells each surrounded by the partition walls as well as extending to an axial direction of the body; and

drying the formed body,

25 characterized in that the forming step comprises a step of receiving at least one face of the outer wall of the formed body being extruded on a cradle; and

*Replaced
by Art 19*

the drying step comprises a step of drying the formed body on a cradle which receives the formed body so that an angle of at least one face of the outer wall relative to the horizontal plane is 15 to 45 degrees.

5 7. The method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein the cradle in the drying step has two faces with V-shaped cross section.

8. The method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein the cradle in the drying step has
10 two faces having V-shaped cross section with a cut at an apex of the V shape.

9. The method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to any of claims 1 to 8, wherein the honeycomb structure contains ceramics as a main component.

15 10. The method for manufacturing a honeycomb structure according to claim 9, wherein the main component contains silicon carbide.

*Replaced by
Article 19*